

# Leaf Detective

## ACTIVITY REFERENCE:

*My Leaf Book* by Monica Wellington | *Autumn Leaves* by Ken Robbin | *What Tree is That?* - [bit.ly/arbor-day-tree-id](https://bit.ly/arbor-day-tree-id)

Trees not only offer shade, they are a starting point for an exploration that inspires curiosity and discovery for children. Before you start this activity, check out a book about trees from your local library and read together. *Fletcher and the Falling Leaves* is a great book about seasons, but there are many others. Whatever time of year, take a journey outside to look at trees and other plant life. As you look around, pick a few leaves from different plants to use for this activity.



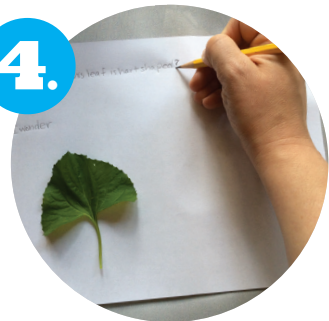
Go outside together and collect 2 or 3 leaves from different plants. Be careful not to touch poisonous plants like poison ivy.



Spread the leaves on a table and think of ways to sort them. Look at the edges and veins of the leaves.



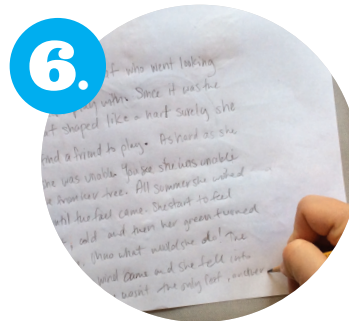
How are the leaves the same or different? If you have a magnifying lens at home, use that to explore more details.



Grab your paper and pencil to write down three questions you have about leaves starting each question with "I wonder..."



On the back of the paper, use your pencil, crayons or markers to create a picture using leaves.



What a wonderful picture! Now write a story or tell your parent/guardian a story about your picture.

## MATERIALS LIST

- 2 pieces of paper
- Crayons
- Markers
- Leaves
- Pencil
- Magnifying lens (optional)

## READ TOGETHER

- *Fletcher and the Falling Leaves* | (PreK-2)  
by Julia Rawlinson
- *Tap the Magic Tree* | (PreK)  
by Christie Matheson
- *Ada Twist, Scientist* | (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>)  
by Andrea Beatty

## MORE ACTIVITIES TO TRY ONLINE

- *Create leaf and bark art*  
[bit.ly/create-leaf-and-bark-art](https://bit.ly/create-leaf-and-bark-art)
- *Leaf investigation: Sid the Science Kid video*  
[bit.ly/leaf-investigation-Sid-Kid](https://bit.ly/leaf-investigation-Sid-Kid)

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